

MARLO Newsletter

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MARLO Bahrain

www.cusnc.navy.mil/marlo Maritime Liaison Office serves as the liaison between the Coalition Maritime Forces in Bahrain and the commercial shipping industry.

UKMTO

ukmto@eim.ae UK Maritime Trade Organization is the primary counter-piracy center in the Middle East region.

MSC HOA

www.mschoa.eu
Part of the EU Naval Force,
MSC HOA safeguards
merchant shipping
operating in the Middle
East region by preventing
and deterring piracy.

From CAPT Michael Lodge, US Coast Guard, New MARLO Officer-in-Charge

First, I would like to thank my predecessor, CAPT Thomas Hastings, USCG for his excellent service during his two years at MARLO.

I am excited to be a part of the Maritime Liaison Office (MARLO) team, a group of professionals dedicated to ensuring that the commercial maritime community operating in the Red Sea, Indian Ocean, and Arabian Gulf receive the most up-to-date and comprehensive information available from the United States Navy and Combined Maritime Forces (CMF). I have spent my career of over 25 years in the U.S. Coast Guard working closely with the commercial maritime industry, ensuring that commerce flows unimpeded in a safe and efficient manner, and consistent with international rules and regulations. MARLO provides the Naval forces with an in-depth understanding of the needs of the maritime industry, and ensures that industry safety and security concerns are fully addressed.

Over the past month, I have had an opportunity to attend numerous meetings in Bahrain and throughout the region, and I am very impressed with the level of trade that takes place in the maritime environment and the close working relationship MARLO has with ship owners, operators, masters and agents, port officials and other government entities interested in the safety and security of the seas. As we all know, there are substantial risks to shipping and the operation of ports and facilities in this region. Piracy and terrorism are currently the watchwords for MARLO, but are not our exclusive focus. Since arriving in Bahrain, I have witnessed the office assisting mariners in distress far from land when their ship was in distress. I have also seen MARLO work with the master of a ship and CMF naval forces to medically evacuate an injured seaman ashore to receive much needed medical care for a potentially life-threatening injury. In short, MARLO appears to be all things to all people in the commercial maritime industry, and I am happy to be part of the team.

I look forward to meeting as many people in the maritime industry as possible as I make my way throughout the region over the next few months and at our annual conference in Dubai in January 2011. I encourage continued and frequent interaction with the assigned MARLO liaisons, for the best way for MARLO to excel at our mission is to share your best practices with the industry at large.

My office and I can be contacted via email at marlo.bahrain@me.navy.mil.

CAPT Michael Lodge, US Coast Guard

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Annual MARLO Dubai Conference - 17 JAN 2011

The 2011 MARLO Dubai Conference and Reception will both be held on January 17, 2011 in Dubai, UAE at the Raffles Hotel Dubai. Please save the date.

The conference will take place at the ballroom in Raffles Hotel from 8:30 AM until 3:00 PM. Lunch will be included. The reception will take place at the Botanical Gardens in Raffles Hotel from 7:30 PM until 11:30 PM. Canapés, alcoholic beverages, and non-alcoholic beverages are included.

Conference speakers will include senior military officers, government officials, and industry leaders. Invitations will be sent at the end of the month, please email marlo.bahrain@me.navy.mil if you would like an invitation.

Increase in Piracy as Monsoon Season Ends

The heavy seas associated with the monsoon season in the Horn of Africa region have subsided as of mid-September. Thus, as predicted by the Office of Naval Intelligence, there has been an increase in Somali pirate activity in the Indian Ocean, Arabian Sea, and the Gulf of Aden during this monsoon transition period.

During this time, it is expected that pirates will attempt to access merchant shipping lanes and attack vessels in the Indian Ocean in excess of 1000NM from the eastern Somali Coast. Pirates will attempt to operate as far east as the Maldives and as far south as Madagascar. Pirates have demonstrated the capability to attack merchant ships transiting the Red Sea as well.

Recommendation to Mariners:

- Contact MARLO, UKMTO, and all appropriate authorities when transiting the Horn of Africa region
- Make use of the International Recommended Transit Corridor (IRTC)
- Employ counter-piracy measures and adhere to Best Management Practices promulgated by the Maritime Security Centre Horn of Africa.

2nd Edition of UKHO Anti-Piracy Chart Released

The United Kingdom Hydrographic Office has released a second version of its anti-piracy planning chart Q6099, an initiative driven by the EU Naval Force.

Notable changes to this chart include the UKMTO Standard Message Format and updated information regarding citadels.

A print version of this chart can be obtained through Admiralty chart distributors http://www.ukho.gov.uk/ProductsandServices/Purchase/Pages/Home.aspx. An electronic version of this chart can be downloaded in a PDF format at http://www.ukho.gov.uk/Media/News/Pages/AntiPiracyChart.aspx.

If there are any further questions regarding the Q6099 chart, please contact UKHO at customerservices@ukho.gov.uk or +44 (0)1823 723366.